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PALESTINE ARABS PROTEST AGAINST AMERICAN EFFORTS FOR A JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

NEW YORK, Dec. 16, (JTA)-- Mayors of a number of Arab cities in Palestine today held a conference to protest against the joint declaration submitted early this month to President Roosevelt by 62 members of the U.S. Senate and 182 members of the House of Representatives, favoring the restoration of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. The conference decided to submit a protest to the U.S. Government through the American Consul-General in Jerusalem and to send a copy of the same protest to the High Commissioner for Palestine for transmission to the British Government in London.

In the city of Gaza, all Arab merchants closed their stores today as an expression of protest. Other demonstrations are expected. Especially active in organizing protests against the efforts undertaken in America to secure post-war Jewish rights in Palestine are the mayors of Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem and Gaza.

The Hebrew press in Palestine today carries articles severely criticizing the Arab leaders for their intensified campaign against Jewish and non-Jewish activities in America in behalf of the Zionist demands for the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. The Davar, leading Jewish newspaper, reprimands the Arabs for their complete indifference to the Nazi mass-extinction of Jews in Europe.

"The Nazi slaughter of Jews," the paper writes, "has found only the slightest echo in the Arab press in Palestine. Even the mourning of the Jews in Palestine was only mentioned on-passant. The Arab newspapers did not publish a single article concerning the fact that Jews are being killed in the hundreds of thousands by the Nazis. Instead, the Arab press shouts against American sympathy which has been expressed in speeches and memorandums by Wendell L. Willkie and other Americans, and even attacks Dr. Weizmann for his addresses in the United States.

Declaring that "Arab journalists interpret the cry of the Jews in their despair as nothing but a political maneuver," Davar says that the conclusion the Arab writers have apparently reached is that Jews must remain silent when they are annihilated lest their cry to the world end with an appeal to save the remnants of the victims by giving them asylum in the only land which is able to absorb them and provide them with shelter. The article points out that the present catastrophe which has befallen the Jews in Europe is part of a world catastrophe and not merely a problem limited to Jews and Arabs. The world will have to find a radical and embracing solution for this problem, Davar concludes, stating that it can be solved "and its solution will not bring any wrong in the future as it did not in the past."

The Hebrew newspaper Haboker writes in an editorial that "the Arab world is not conducting a wise policy from the standpoint of vital Arab interests." The paper hopes that Arab leaders in Palestine will change their attitude and will compromise with the Zionist standpoint.

DARLAN'S RADIO STATION SPREADS ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA IN NORTH AFRICA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- A North African radio station controlled by Admiral Jean Darlan today quoted an anti-Semitic publication, the Federal Communications Commission reported this afternoon.

Elmer Davis, head of the Office of War Information, today stated that Milton Eisenhower, associate director of the OWI, is now in Algiers charged with fostering cooperation between the Office of War Information and the radio stations controlled by Darlan. Mr. Eisenhower will also report on the refugee problem in North Africa. All interned Frenchmen have been released, but nothing is known regarding internees of other nationalities, Mr. Davis said.

The radio station which broadcast the anti-Jewish article was identified by the Federal Communications Commission as Radio Maroc, at Rabat, Morocco. The article, written by a Frenchman named Pierre Bouttang, appealed to "comrades in arms" not to believe that their fight is "that of the Jews and the liberals." It also stated that the Jews have "invaded" Paris and Marseilles. The article was published last Sunday in a periodical called "Vaincre Jeunesse" which appears in North Africa.

Mr. Davis, commenting at his press conference today, said that the publication represented only a single fanatical leader of a small reactionary youth movement. He reported that of twenty-one news items used by Radio Maroc today, thirteen were supplied by the Office of War Information. "Cooperation is improving," he said, "but occasionally they put over something like this on us." Analysts of the Office of War Information stated that this was the first anti-Semitic broadcast they had noted from radio stations in North Africa since the American troops landed there.

DAVID M. BRESSLER, NOTED SOCIAL WORKER, DIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- David M. Bressler, noted Jewish social worker and executive in many Jewish organizations and institutions of a philanthropic and religious nature, died here today at the age of 63. He had been ill for some time.

A vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, Mr. Bressler was also a member of the executive committee of the American Jewish Committee, the National Refugee Service and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. He was a non-Zionist member of the Council of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and at one time represented the non-Zionists on the Board of the Jewish National Fund. Born in Charlottenburg, Germany, he came to the United States in 1884 and received his education in the City College of New York, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and New York Law School. Although admitted to the bar in 1901, he soon entered social welfare work and became the manager of the Industrial Removal Office.

In 1916 he helped to organize the first national campaign of the American Jewish Relief Committee and became the first secretary of the Joint Distribution Committee. He was sent by the J.D.C. to Europe in 1922 to study the conditions of Jews there and was later appointed chairman of the National Appeal for Jewish War Sufferers. In 1924, with Louis Marshall and Stephen S. Wise, he was chairman of the Emergency Committee for Jewish Refugees. Later he became acting chairman of the New York branch of the United Jewish Campaign. After a second trip to Eastern Europe in 1929, he served as national co-chairman of the Allied Jewish Campaign. Governor Herbert H. Lehman appointed him to the New York State Planning Board in 1934 and in 1937 to the New York State Appeal Board of Unemployment Insurance.

SEN. PEPPER CLOSES 77TH CONGRESS WITH ATTACK ON NAZI "MURDER OF RACES"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- Sen. Claude Pepper, Florida Democrat, brought down the curtain on the 77th Congress this afternoon with a brief but strong appeal for the destruction of Hitler and his satellites for the "murder of races that is being carried out by this fiend and devil."

The Florida senator predicted that a day of justice will come when "not only Hitler shall be hanged higher than Haman, but his satellites, who have been his lesser gangsters, shall have to pay in the peoples courts of the countries he has ravaged for the crimes they have personally committed."

"It is not war but butchery of which they have been guilty," he said. "It is the murder of races that is being carried out by this fiend and devil whom the earth must consider its enemy until he and those who support him have been totally destroyed and made impotent."

GHETTO WALLS WILL FALL ON DAY OF VICTORY, GEN. SIKORSKI SAYS

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- The determination of the Polish people of all faiths to halt the Nazi massacres of Jews in Poland was emphasized here today by Premier Gen. Sikorski, addressing the Overseas Press Club. "On the day of victory the walls of the ghetto in Poland will fall. They will be destroyed by the Polish nation," he declared.

"To realize the extent of the monstrous massacre of Jews," the Polish Premier continued, "you must imagine the whole of Manhattan closed in by ghetto walls behind which all the Jews of the Western Hemisphere have been imprisoned and gradually and methodically exterminated in groups of several thousands daily by machine guns, or in lethal gas chambers, or by electrocution."

To illustrate the unity which has been brought to Poland by the Nazi oppression and atrocities, and in an indirect answer to charges that anti-Semitism persists in the country and in its exiled government, Gen. Sikorski quoted the following proclamation which has been circulated secretly in Poznan, Warsaw, Wilno and Lwow:

"The total number of Jews killed has reached one million, this number being increased daily. All perish: the rich and the poor, the aged and women, men, youth and infants. Their only crime was that they were born into the Jewish people, who are condemned to extermination by Hitler. Therefore we, Catholics and Poles, desire to speak. We do not want to be Pilates. We cannot actively counteract the German crimes, cannot help anything nor save anybody, but we protest from the bottom of our hearts, filled with compassion, indignation and horror."

EDEN REJECTS PROPOSAL TO ASK VATICAN AND SWEDEN TO INTERVENE FOR JEWS

LONDON, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, today rejected a proposal that the British Government approach the Vatican and Sweden with a request that they, as neutrals, make representations to Germany regarding the Nazi slaughter of Jews in occupied countries. "It would be up to the governments directly concerned to make such a move if they thought it useful," he declared.

Eden made his statement in the House of Commons in reply to the suggestion of Rev. R. W. Sorensen, Laborite M.P. Rev. Sorensen also asked the Foreign Secretary to propose to the Swedish Government that it temporarily admit Jews from Nazi territories under a guarantee that supplies for the refugees would be sent by the United Nations.

U.S. JEWISH DELEGATION AWAITED IN PALESTINE; YISHUV SENDS ENVOYS TO NEUTRAL LANDS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- The question of whether central Jewish organizations in Palestine should send a delegation to the United States to establish direct contact with American Jewry has not been decided as yet, but the Yishuv is awaiting the early arrival in Palestine of a Zionist delegation from America, it was declared here today at a press conference arranged by the Jewish Agency.

Bernard Joseph, speaking for the Zionist executive, announced at the conference that the Jewish Agency is sending special representatives to neutral countries for the purpose of saving as many Jews from Nazi-held countries as circumstances will permit. Steps have been taken to bring to Palestine several hundred Jewish children stranded in Teheran because of Iraq's refusal to permit their passage in transit to Palestine. British authorities in the Middle East have promised to find a way of bringing these children to Palestine, Mr. Joseph said.

It was disclosed at the conference that 13,300 Jewish men and women of Palestine are now in the armed forces. In addition, 6,300 Jews are serving in the police force and 175 Jewish doctors from Palestine are serving in medical units on the Middle Eastern front.

JEWISH DOCTORS MURDERED BY NAZIS IN MINSK WHEN THEY REFUSE TO CASTRATE JEWISH MEN

MOSCOW, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- Scores of Jewish doctors were recently murdered by the Gestapo in Nazi-occupied Minsk when they refused to castrate the few remaining Jews in the city as ordered by Gen. Wilhelm Von Kube, Nazi governor of Minsk, it is reported today in Pravda. The doctors, including women, were first tortured and humiliated before being put to death, it is stated.

Reporting further details of the devastation visited upon the once flourishing city by the Germans, Pravda writes that "the town has been turned into a dungeon for White Russians and Jews. Gallows decorate the main streets and squares and the campus of the university. Thousands of Jews have been murdered by the Nazi gangsters."

NUMBER OF JEWS IN CANADIAN ARMED FORCES GROWING RAPIDLY, CONFERENCE HEARS

MONTREAL, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- The number of Jews in the Canadian armed forces is growing so rapidly that many more Jewish chaplains are needed immediately, it was reported here today at the first conference of Jewish chaplains ever held in the history of Canadian Jewry.

It was disclosed at the conference that Matsoth are already being sent to England, Newfoundland, Labrador and Alaska for use during Passover by Jewish officers and men in the military units there. Preparations are also being completed for the observance of the Passover holiday in the camps in Canada and overseas with Seders and special services. The conference decided to publish Jewish religious literature for the men in the armed forces.

KIRSTEIN WILL LEAVES \$210,000 TO CHARITY

BOSTON, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- Three charitable funds totalling \$210,000 were established by the late Louis E. Kirstein, according to his will which was filed for probate yesterday. The Associated Jewish Philanthropies of Boston, of which Mr. Kirstein had been president, received an outright gift of \$50,000, while the remainder of the \$210,000 is divided between two charitable trust funds, one of which is set up by the will and the other of which was created by Mr. Kirstein in 1939.

POST-WAR SPIRITUAL AID FOR JEWS IN EUROPE URGED BY DR. SILVER

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- Post-war relief and rehabilitation in war-torn countries must be in spiritual as well as material terms, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, rabbi of the Temple of Cleveland, last night told the annual Hanukkah dinner of the Jewish Education Committee at the Hotel Astor. Judge Samuel I. Rosenman of the New York State Supreme Court, president of the committee, presided.

Dr. Silver told the 1,000 guests that the tragedy that has overtaken the Jews of Europe at the hands of the Nazis cannot be ameliorated simply by supplying them with food and money. The faith and traditions which link American Jews to those in Europe are as important a factor in the help they can render as material aids, he declared.

At the request of Morris W. Haft, the toastmaster, the guests rose and observed a minute of silence in memory of those "who died at the hands of sadistic murderers" in Nazi-occupied Europe. Alan Stroock, a director, presented a survey of the work of the Jewish Education Committee. The Committee, Mr. Stroock stated, grants financial help to 115 schools and educational organizations, most of the funds being applied for scholarships for children who are unable to pay for their tuition. The grants are also used for building repairs, for group insurance and sick benefits for teachers' relief pensions and text books. In addition the Committee gives financial assistance to a group of demonstration or experimental schools of different types. Jewish high schools, as well as elementary schools, are the beneficiaries of these grants.

JUDGE LEVINTHAL CHARGES ANTI-ZIONIST GROUP REPUDIATES AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- Announcement of the proposed organization of an anti-Zionist group under the leadership of Dr. Louis Wolsey, of Philadelphia, "is but another manifestation of the irrational prejudice against our national movement which persists among a small minority of the Reform Rabbis of this country," Judge Louis E. Levinthal, president of the Zionist Organization of America, declared in a statement made public here today.

In a rejoinder to the announced program of the new group organized under the name of "American Council for Judaism" in opposition to the establishment of a Jewish national homeland in Palestine, Judge Levinthal declared: "By their disavowal of Zionism in America these 'Protestrabbins' (counterparts of the small group of rabbis who protested against Zionism in the days of Dr. Theodor Herzl, founder of the movement) have repudiated American democracy itself. To pretend that Zionism is opposed to Judaism, as these men charge, is obviously absurd. Zionism has its very roots in our Bible, and every page of our Prayer Book gives expression to the Jewish yearning for the restoration of the Land of Israel to the People of Israel."

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON PALESTINE FORMED; ASKS ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO AMERICA

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.(JTA)-- A two-point program asking for the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth and for the admission of Jewish refugees to other countries, especially to the United States, was adopted by the Christian Council on Palestine which was formed here following the conference of Christian leaders this week at the Hotel Pennsylvania at which free immigration of Jews to Palestine was urged. Dr. Henry A. Atkinson was elected president of the new organization.